

Office of Public Affairs U.S. Embassy, Wellington

July 29, 2005

President Bush Nominates Ambassador to New Zealand

President George W. Bush announced July 28 his intention to nominate William McCormick of Oregon to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to New Zealand and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Samoa. Mr. McCormick is Co-Founder and Chairman of McCormick & Schmick Management Group. He opened the company's first McCormick and Schmick's Seafood Restaurant thirty years ago. Prior to that, Mr. McCormick was co-owner of Refectory International, Inc. Earlier in his career, he served in the United States Army Reserve.

The White House Press Release can be viewed at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/07/20050728-5.html

The White House sent the nomination to the Senate for confirmation on July 28.

The Embassy will comment further on the nomination when the confirmation hearings have been completed.